

SECRET  
IAC-M-17

22 January 1951

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held in Director's  
Conference Room, Administration Building  
Central Intelligence Agency, on 22 January 1951

Director of Central Intelligence  
Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith  
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Fisher Howe, acting for Special Assistant, Intelligence,  
Department of State  
Major General R. J. Canine, acting for Assistant Chief of  
Staff, G-2, Department of the Army  
Rear Admiral Felix L. Johnson, Director of Naval Intelligence  
Major General Charles P. Cabell, Director of Intelligence,  
Headquarters, United States Air Force  
Dr. Walter F. Colby, Director of Intelligence, Atomic  
Energy Commission  
Brigadier General Vernon E. Megee, USMC, Deputy Director  
for Intelligence, The Joint Staff  
Mr. Victor P. Keay, acting for Assistant to the Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALSO PRESENT

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Mr. William H. Jackson, Central Intelligence Agency  
Dr. William L. Langer, Central Intelligence Agency  
[REDACTED] Central

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Intelligence Agency

Central Intelligence Agency

[REDACTED] Central Intelligence Agency

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Mr. William C. Trueheart, Department of State  
Mr. Charles C. Stelle, Department of State  
Mr. Mose L. Harvey, Department of State  
Colonel Hamilton H. Howze, Department of the Army  
Mr. Yaro J. Skalnik, Department of the Army  
Captain Ray Malpass, USN, Department of the Navy  
Mr. L. P. H. Healey, Department of the Navy  
Captain R. G. McCool, USN, The Joint Staff  
Mr. C. D. DeLoach, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Secretary  
Mr. James Q. Reber  
Central Intelligence Agency

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Approval of Minutes (SECRET)

1. Action: The minutes of the meeting of 15 January 1951 (IAC-M-15) were approved subject to the corrections submitted by General Cabell with respect to remarks attributed to him. A revision of page 1, incorporating these changes has been distributed. The minutes of the meeting of 18 January 1951 (IAC-M-16) were approved with the revision of paragraph 4 to read as follows:

Mr. Jackson called attention to recent articles relating to intelligence and particularly the CIA. He pointed to the public interest necessarily aroused by the appointment of a well-known public figure, General Smith, as Director, and on occasion of a major reorganization of the Agency. He indicated that it is almost imperative to say something to the press or it will make its own deductions and write accordingly. He emphasized that insofar as the press had approached him he had avoided any comment on intelligence as such but had tried to point up the coordinating function of the Agency which was clearly a matter of public record in the law. Mr. Jackson referred to the report of the Dulles Committee which had stressed the fact that the covert aspects of CIA had become too generally known. The report suggested that if publicity could not be avoided as a practical matter, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Members were invited to make suggestions on this problem.

Prospects for the Creation of an Adequate Western European Defense (NIE-13) (SECRET)

2. Action: Agreed that this study would be greatly improved and more useful to the policy makers if it were approached jointly by the intelligence and the planning officers in the Government. It was understood that CIA would forward a letter to the JCS making the suggestion and that General Smith would talk to General Bradley about this procedure.

Soviet Course of Action with Respect to Germany (NIE-4) (SECRET)

3. Action: Referred this paper back to the staff for re-drafting to incorporate the views of this meeting. The revision would be submitted for consideration at the IAC meeting on Thursday, 25 January 1951.

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c. While it was felt that this paper could be refined  
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or the general import of the paper.

5. The proposed redraft of paragraph 8 which was circulated at the meeting was in general agreed to. It was recognized that there was a need to state more accurately what was intended by the use of the term "accommodating" with respect to one of the USSR's alternatives to Germany's rearmament. Admiral Johnson felt that the last sentence regarding the Kremlin's likelihood of resorting to military action was still out of line with his own thinking.

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7. General Cabell believed that either in this paper or possibly more satisfactorily in another there should be an examination of whether if a decision was made for the rearmament of Germany there was a likelihood of its actually taking place. The degree of probability of achievement would have a bearing on the likelihood of a USSR decision for war. Such a study should take into account the various avenues available to the USSR for frustrating our attempt

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ut German rearment.

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Estimate of Current Indications  
of Russian Intentions

9. Action: Agreed that Dr. Langer should draft the terms of reference for an estimate on the current indication of Russian intentions for consideration. It was understood that in the preparation of such an estimate reliance should be made on the Watch Committee for preliminary work in summarizing the cumulative effect of their various reports on Russian and Satellite activities as they bear on Russian intentions. It was also understood that the purpose of this exercise was to discharge the continuing responsibility of the IAC members to estimate Russian intentions on the basis of current intelligence. Upon conclusion of this effort an assessment would be made of its usefulness and to determine procedure whereby if necessary it might be continued.

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